

2.12 ITEM RATIO DEFINITIONS

Introduction

There is a routine in the Tools module that allows you to produce listings showing the ratio resulting from comparing the values of two items for all cases in the survey (See Item Ratio Listings, Chapter 5.4.12). In order to produce this listing, you must first define the combination of items that make up the ratio(s). You will specify those item ratio combinations in the Item Ratio Definitions module.

Item Ratio Definitions actually consists of two screens. The first screen shows you what item ratio definitions already exist. The second screen, which is accessed through the first screen, allows you to add a new definition or to modify an existing one. The result of adding or updating a ratio definition is to update the file PARMLIB.ITMRATIO.

Specifically, the Item Ratio Definitions screens allow you to:

- Review existing item ratio definitions
- Create new item ratio definitions
- Modify existing item ratio definitions
- Delete existing item ratio definitions

Accessing the Screen

The Item Ratio Definitions screens are accessible through the Survey Specifications module.

- Click on the SURVEY SPECIFICATIONS button from the StEPS Main Menu.
- Click on the OTHER SPECIFICATIONS button from the Survey Specifications menu
- Select the “Item Ratio Specifications” option from the pick-list.

You should now see the following screen:

ITEM RATIO DEFINITION MENU Survey: ATS Stat Period: 1998A1 Date: 12APR00:14:42:21

Enter Ratio Number:

RATNUM	NITEM	NFACTOR	DITEM	DFACTOR	LABEL	USRNAME	PRGDTM
0001	C4PAY	1	CADM	1	Other	nquye012	17FEB00:09:55:13
0002	C3PAY	1	CAMIP	1	Other	nquye012	17FEB00:09:55:29
0003	CTSAL	1	COSAL	1	Other	chew0001	13MAR00:07:44:54

Top Row: 1 Total: 3 Last File Update: 13MAR00:07:44:53

Figure 2.12.1 Item Ratio Definitions Screen

Screen Features

- The Survey, Stat period and date are displayed at the top of the screen, next to the screen title. These fields are not correctable.
- The “Enter Item Ratio Number” box is where you will enter an item ratio number to examine. A pick list is available where you may choose from the existing (previously defined) item ratio numbers.
- The existing item ratio definitions are displayed in the table that makes up the majority of the screen. Each item ratio definition contains the following features, which appear as the column headers to the table:
 - **Ratio Number (RATNUM):** This is the unique number that is assigned to the ratio definition. It is essentially the name that describes the combination of items being compared.
 - **Numerator Item (NITEM):** This is the name of the item whose value will serve as the numerator in the ratio calculation.
 - **NFACTOR:** This is a scaling factor that is applied to the numerator. For example, if the values for the numerator item are stored in thousands, the NFACTOR will be “1000”. This means that the value stored in the numerator item field will be multiplied by 1000 to ensure it is on the same scale as the denominator item.
 - **Denominator Item (DITEM):** This is the name of the item whose value will serve as the denominator in the ratio calculation.
 - **DFACTOR:** This is a scaling factor that is applied to the denominator.
 - **LABEL:** This is a descriptive label (name) applied to the ratio definition.
 - **USRNAME:** The name of the person who created or last modified the ratio definition.
 - **PRGDTM:** The date and time the definition was created or last modified.
- “Top Row” tells you what the top row of the table is. There is a scroll bar on the right-hand side of the table for moving up and down through the definitions.
- “Total” tells you the total number of item ratios defined for the survey.

2.12.1 UPDATING AN EXISTING ITEM RATIO DEFINITION

- Enter the ratio number of the definition you want to modify in the “Enter Ratio Number” field of the “Item Ratio Definition” screen (Figure 2.12.1), then select “Update Definition” from the Edit p-menu. You can also click on the ratio number (RATNUM) in the table. The Update Item Ratio Definition screen (figure 2.12.2) should appear:

Figure 2.12.2 Update Item Ratio Definition

- Modify any of the five correctable fields on the screen. Pick lists are available:
 - **Numerator:** Select a different item to be the numerator. The pick list is tied to the item data dictionary.
 - **Denominator:** Select a different item to be the denominator. The pick list is tied to the item data dictionary.
 - **NFACTOR AND DFACTOR:** Default value is “1”.

➤ **Label:** Type over the existing label or select one of the pre-defined labels.

- When you are satisfied with the new definition, click on the “Update(F2)” button, select the “Update Definition(F2)” option from the Edit pmenu, or hit the F2 key.
- “Cancel” will prevent changes entered from being applied to the definition.

2.12.2 ADDING AN ITEM RATIO DEFINITION

- In the Item Ratio Definitions screen (Figure 2.12.1) enter a new ratio number. This number must not match the ratio number of an existing definition.
- Select “Add Definition” from the Edit p-menu. This will bring up the “Add Item Ratio Definition” screen, which is identical to the “Update Item Ratio Definition” screen (Figure 2.12.2) in both appearance and function.
- Complete the steps as described in 2.12.1 for updating an existing definition.

2.12.3 DELETING AN ITEM RATIO DEFINITION

- Enter the ratio number of the definition you want to delete in the “Enter Ratio Number” field of the “Item Ratio Definitions” screen (Figure 2.12.1)
- Select “Delete Definition(F6)” from the Edit p-menu, or press the F6 key.

P-Menus

P-Menu	Options	Function
EDIT	Add Definition Update Definition(F2) Delete Definition(F6)	Create new ratio definition on PARMLIB.ITMRATIO with options selected by the user. Update existing definition on PARMLIB.ITMRATIO with options selected by the user. Remove an existing definition from PARMLIB.ITMRATIO
UTILITIES	Next Page (PgDwn) Previous Page (PgUp) Top Bottom Print	Move to next page in ratio definitions table display. Go back to previous page in ratio definitions display. Go to first definition in ratio definitions display. Go to last definition in ratio definitions display. Print Item Ratio Definitions.
HELP	Item Ratio Help WhoamI (F7)	Display Help information on the Item Ratio Definitions screen Display user default and systems information
EXIT	StEPS Main Menu (Home) Exit (F3)	Exit to STEPS main menu Exit to previous screen